## PRESS RELEASE

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## United States Congress Funds Key Long Beach Water Supply Projects; Seawater Desalination Project receives \$1.25 million

WASHINGTON DC – The United States Senate has passed the FY'06 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Conference Report that funds the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Interior, including the Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Energy and several independent Agencies. Included in the bill is \$622,000 for the Long Beach Reclaimed Water Expansion Project and \$1,250,000 for the Long Beach Seawater Desalination Project. The United States House of Representatives passed the FY'06 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Conference Report last week. President Bush is now expected to sign the bill.

"These federal appropriations are a direct result of the merit of these two important projects; The Congress continues to put its trust and money in water supply reliability projects that have a national impact," stated Kevin Wattier, General Manager of the Long Beach Water Department. "In total, these projects have been the recipient of over \$11 million since 2001 thanks to the strong leadership of Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald and Representative Dana Rohrabacher."

H.R. 2419 The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2006 provides a total of \$30.4 billion in budget authority for the Federal Agencies it funds. The Long Beach Water Department has received \$5.25 million for its seawater desalination project and over \$6 million for its reclaimed water expansion project since 2001.

The Long Beach Water Department is an urban southern California water supply agency and the standard in water conservation and environmental stewardship. For more information visit <a href="https://www.lbwater.org">www.lbwater.org</a>.